Farm to School Resources Fact Sheet

Generally speaking, Farm to School programs seek to connect schools with local farms in order to serve healthier school meals using locally produced foods. Healthier school meals could help combat rising childhood obesity. This fact sheet is designed to summarize some of the resources available to help schools start or expand a Farm to School program.

Should you have any questions or would like to request my support for any funding applications you submit, please do not hesitate to contact my District office at (419) 259-7500 or my Washington, DC office at (202) 225-4146.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm to School Initiative

In response to the growing demand for Farm to School activities, USDA formed the Farm to Team, which implements the Farm to School Initiative. The Farm to School Team developed the Farm to School website to help disseminate information about Farm to School resources and activities.

More specifically, the website serves as an online resource to assist schools in starting or expanding Farm to School activities; assist in the communication between farmers and schools; share information about Farm to School activities across the Nation; and to help keep interested parties informed of the legislative and regulatory changes that influence Farm to School activities.

For more for information about USDA resources available, please visit the following websites:

Farm to School Website: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/F2S
Farm to School Grants & Resources: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/F2S/grants resources.htm
Farm to School Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs): http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/F2S/faqs.htm

National Farm to School Network

The National Farm to School Network supports the implementation of Farm to School in all 50 states and the District of Columbia through focused work in the following priority areas: 1) policy development; 2) training and technical assistance; 3) information development and dissemination; 4) networking; 5) media and marketing; and 6) research and evaluation. The Ohio State University (OSU) Extension is a partner through the National Network and serves as an informational resource for Farm to School activities in Ohio.

For more information about the resources available through the National Farm to School Network and OSU's Farm to School program, please visit the following websites:

National Farm to School Network: http://www.farmtoschool.org
OSU Farm to School Program: http://farmtoschool.osu.edu